

# Catcher in the Rye Dialectical Journals

*by* Sandy Matti

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WORD COUNT  
CHARACTER COUNT

1768  
7952

TIME SUBMITTED

OCT 23, 2010  
11:44AM

6	Quote	P.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
	"... and 8 that David Copperfield kind of crap but I don't feel like going through it if you want to know the truth... my parents would have about two hemorrhages apiece if I tell anything pretty personal about them."	1 Chpt. 1	This excerpt makes me so curious about his family members. The tone makes me believe that Holden probably is ashamed by them or he doesn't like them when he describes them as "crap". His parents' attitude toward telling others personal stories is also confusing. It is not clear whether they are the ones inhibiting Holden from telling or not. I predict that Holden is reluctant when it comes to uncover truths about himself. (79)
4	Quote	P.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
	"He said <i>he</i> talked to Jesus all the time, even when he was driving his car. That killed me. I can just see the big phony bastard shifting into first gear and asking Jesus to send him more shifts."	17 Chpt. 3	I don't understand what Holden meant by shifting gear in this passage. However, now I understand that he does not like braggers and fakers. He also finds it irrational that these people dare to say they follow Jesus. I agree with him. If standing in a parking lot does not make you a car the going to church does not mean you're incredibly religious. (70)

Quote	P.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
17 "I didn't care about not seeing the movie anyway... Besides, I'd been to the movies before with Auckly and Brossard."	37 Chpt. 5	This quote is ironic in a few ways. Holden normally hates watching movies because he thinks that actors are phony. He also does not like Auckly that much. In this part, Holden doesn't seem glum and miserable as usual because he is acting like a regular teenager would. Holden's invitation to Auckly proves that he is caring and sensitive to Auckly's emotions. He also knows that loneliness is the worst situation so he helps Auckly out of it at least for one night. (83)
Quote	P.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
1 "I just kept lying there on Ely's bed, thinking about Jane and all. It just drove me stark staring mad when I thought about her and Stradlater parked somewhere in that fat assed Ed Banky's car. Every time I thought about it, I felt	48 Chpt. 7	15 The way Holden is all mad and angry tells us that he has feelings for Jane. The way he is talking about Stradlater has a connotation of evilness and mystery as to why he is afraid about Jane. Holden used to be a close friend to Jane and he knows things about her that is worrying him

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like jumping out of the window."		about the intimate relationship she might form with Stradlater. However, he is not sharing with us. (73)
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Quote 6	P.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
"Sex is something I don't understand too hot."	63 Chpt. 9	This is something I think of sometimes too. And it's quite wrong how easy people think it is. Holden is afraid of sex and its effect on his life. However, he has so many crushes on girls. He is not lucky with most of them, but he narrates to us a meeting meaningful. (51)
Quote 14	P.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
"Jane & I got to be friends and all. I played Golf with her the same afternoon. She lost eight balls, I remember. <i>Eight</i> "	77 Chpt. 11	Holden is happy that Jane became his friend. His happiness is clearly displayed in the way he remembers the smallest details such as how many balls she played. Previously in the novel, he finds a lot of trouble remembering things that used to bore him such as "David Copperfield kind of crap". (52)

Quote 5	P.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
"The fish- that's different. The fish is different. I'm talking about the <i>ducks</i> "	82 Chpt. 12	In this passage, Holden is thinking scientifically. This supports the fact that he is smart after all even though he is failing most of his classes. 20 this metaphor, he is comparing himself to the ducks in Central Park when the lagoon freezes. What he is really saying is that where would he go if he lives in a place full of phonies and mean people. The ducks can't swim in ice and he won't stay in a school full of phonies. (82)
Quote 13	P.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
"I wasn't sleepy or anything but I was feeling sort of lousy. Depressed and all. I almost wished I was dead."	90 Chpt. 13	Holden was lost in his world and it is not the first time. Back when he was in Penecy Prep. He said the exact words, "I almost wished I was dead". This proves that his conflict in life isn't really the school

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		he attended. I infer that his feelings of depression originated from a sad event in his life. It might be losing his brother or Jane. Holden is ambiguous about it. (72)
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Quote 11	P.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
"the one right next to me had one of those straw baskets that you see nuns and salvation army babes collecting enough with around Christmas time... 'I could make a small contribution. You could keep the money for when you take up a collection.'"	109 Chpt. 15	The nuns he met at breakfast are very important characters because Holden does not hate them at all. In fact he is admiring and respecting their humbleness. I used to attend a Catholic elementary school and I can totally approve what he is saying. They used to tell us stories about those people who can't afford buying new clothes or food and they encouraged us to help them because that's what makes Jesus happy. Holden's willingness to make a contribution reveals something about his beliefs that is Christian. (88)
Quote 10	P.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
"God, I love it when a kid is nice and polite when you tighten their skate for them or something. Most kids are. They really are."	121 Chpt. 16	This is a very interesting passage because it has a word that did not accrue in the novel twice, <i>love</i> . According to the persistent melancholy of Holden, he still carries around love. Love for children. This is quite ironic for a typical male teenager. Only those with really big hearts can <i>love</i> and appreciate the sweetness of a child. (59)

Quote 9	P.#	Evaluate, Analyze, Response
"the thing Jesus <i>really</i> would've liked would be the guy who plays the kettle drums in the orchestra... he only gets on <i>chance</i> to bang them a couple of times... then when he bangs them, he does it so nice and sweet..."	138 Chpt.18	Even though Holden does not seem very religious but he knows the main principles of Christian faith. The right from wrong. He is also pretty intelligent. When he criticizes people, he knows what he is aiming for and he is quite persuasive. This reflects how his parents nurtured him as a child. Now I know that back in chpt. 1 he was only lazy and not remembering anything to tell his readers about his

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		family. Holden forgets things a lot. (80)
Quote 3	P.#	Evaluate, Analyze, Response
"I kept putting my hand over my stomach and all to keep the blood from dripping all over. I didn't want anybody to know I was wounded. I was <i>concealing</i> the fact that I was a wounded sunuvabitch."	150 Chpt. 19	Back in the hotel when Holden got beat up by the elevator guy, he pretended to be shot in the stomach. It is worth noting that he does the same thing now. I infer that he might have seen a movie and such a scene got stuck in his head. Also, this passage is very symbolic as to how Holden feels. He has a lot of issues that are depressing him but he isn't showing that among people. (78)

Quote 12	p.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
"That was all I could think of though. Those two nuns I saw at breakfast table and this boy, James Castle, I saw at Elikton Hills."	170 Chpt.22	When Phoebe made Holden say what he liked in his life all the first thing that came up to his mind were those people. This is another interesting passage that shows something unique about Holden. It is unusual that he only thinks of people. It shows that he only values individuals or maybe he has a lousy memory. These people are special because they are not phony, wealthy or famous. Holden has mentioned James Castle before. When he was beat up in the hotel room and thinking to suicide like him. (91)
Quote 16	p.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
"Then I took my hunting hat from my coat pocket and gave it to her."	180 Chpt. 23	The hunting hat is very symbolic to Holden. he wears it whenever he wants to feel cozy or protected. It is probably the only object he cherishes. Giving the hat to Phoebe is a terrific example of being the catcher in the rye because he wants to protect children from the severity of life. Among those children is his favorite person, Phoebe. (62)

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Quote 7	P.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
"I don't want to scare you but I can very clearly see you dying nobly one way or another, for some highly unworthy cause"	188  Chpt. 24	These are Mr. Antolili's words. Previously, when Holden was in the hotel room, depressed and beaten up by the elevator guy. He wished to throw himself off the window, but there was no Mr. Antolini to pick him up the way he picked James Castle. Mr. Antolini is the catcher in the rye for Holden, but only he wants him to grow up to think more wisely about life. (69)
Quote 2	P.#	Analyze, Evaluate, Response
"but this damn article I started reading made me almost worst. It was all about hormones. It describes how you should look , your face and eyes and all, if your hormones were in good shape, and I didn't look that way at all."	195  Chpt. 25	Holden is originally skinny. He was supposed to be on a certain diet to help him gain Wight, but he never eats enough. In fact, he rarely mentions food in his whole novel. His body is not getting the essential nutrition to operate right; consequently, hormones are not going to form enough. Many organs in his body won't work correctly including his brain. That is Scientifically why he'll wind up in a mental hospital. (74)

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